

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00314 061850Z

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR US

SUBJECT: BUSINESS WEEK INTERVIEW

1. SHORTLY AFTER MY MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
SAUVAGNARGUES THE FOLLOWING APPEARED ON THE AFP WIRE
SERVICE:

"MR. JEAN SAUVAGNARGUES, MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, RECEIVED THIS MORNING AT THE QUAI D'ORSAY
MR. KENNETH RUSH, AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES IN
FRANCE.

"DURING THE COURSE OF THE INTERVIEW, WE HAVE
LEARNED FROM AN AUTHORIZED FRENCH SOURCE, THE US AMBAS-
SADOR MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE CRITICISMS OF EUROPE,
ENUNCIATED BY AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE MR. HENRY
KISSINGER IN AN INTERVIEW WHICH HE HAD GIVEN THE AMERI-
CAN WEEKLY BUSINESS WEEK, CONCERN ONLY THE PAST.

"THE FOREIGN MINISTER INDICATED TO THE AMERICAN
AMBASSADOR THAT THAT HAD BEEN THE WAY HE HAD UNDERSTOOD
IT, THAT THIS WAS ILLUSTRATED AT THE RECENT MEETING IN
MARTINIQUE WHICH HAD INDEED SHOWN THAT A CONSIDERABLE
DEGREE OF RAPPORT EXISTED BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND
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PAGE 02 PARIS 00314 061850Z

PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING ON THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAD

BEEN DISCUSSED.

"IN THE INTERVIEW WHICH MR. KISSINGER HAD ACCORDED BUSINESS WEEK, THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE RE-PROACHED EUROPE, SPECIFICALLY, FOR OPPOSING AMERICAN POLICY IN CERTAIN AREAS."

2. SAUVAGNARGUES DID NOT TELL ME HE PLANNED TO ISSUE OR CAUSE TO BE ISSUED A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON OUR MEETING; IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRESS RELEASE WAS DESIGNED TO BRING SECRETARY'S CLARIFICATION OF HIS BUSINESS WEEK INTERVIEW TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC. IT SHOULD IN THIS RESPECT BE HELPFUL IN REDUCING CRITICAL SPECULATION AND DISCUSSION OF YOUR INTERVIEW WITHIN BOTH EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTAL CIRCLES AND THE MEDIA.

3. SUBSEQUENT TO DRAFTING OF FOREGOING, FLORA LEWIS OF NEW YORK TIMES CALLED PRESS ATTACHE TO ASK IF MY TALK WITH SAUVAGNARGUES ALSO TOOK UP SECTION OF BUSINESS WEEK ARTICLE DEALING WITH POSSIBLE USE OF U.S. MILITARY FORCE IN OIL PRODUCING AREAS. PRESS ATTACHE RESPONDED THAT THIS SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED, THAT I LIMITED MY REMARKS TO STATEMENTS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED BY WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMEN, AND THAT SAUVAGNARGUES HAD EXPRESSED NO GOING DISAGREEMENT.

RUSH

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